Effects of Chemical Pesticides

855. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report released recently by the U.S. National Research Council titled "Neem-a-tree to solve the World's problem";

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to develop bio-pesticides based on the local flora and fauna;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey as to the deleterious effects on the excessive use of chemical pesticides on food crops; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to minimise the effects of chemical pesticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various Departments under the Government viz. ICAR, CSIR, Department of Biotechnology, some State Agricultural Universities and some R&D establishments of Private Sector are engaged in the development of bio-pesticides based on the local flora and fauna. As a result thereof neem based pesticides have become commercially available. Whereas, Pilot Scale technologies have been developed to introduce biocides like *Bacillus* spp.

(c) Many surveys have been conducted by the Institutes under ICAR and State Agricultural Universities to determine load of pesticides on food crops. These surveys have revealed presence of some pesticide residues.

(d) To ensure that pesticides do not pose deleterious effects due to their excessive use on food crops following steps are taken by the Government:—

1. Concept of IPM is being popularised for neem based and judicious application of pesticides to avoid excessive use of chemical pesticides.

2. Government have banned the use of nine chemical pesticides including DDT.

3. Neem based pesticides and biocides have been registered for use.

Recommendations of world Sustainable Agriculture Association

856. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recommendations made by the "World Sustainable Agriculture Association" against the use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to take steps to propagate nature-farming involving judicious use of chemical and natural fertilisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Government is not aware of the recommendations made by the "World Sustainable Agriculture Association".

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The balanced and complementary use of chemical fertilizers along with bio fertilizers and other natural fertilizers is regularly advocated so that an integrated nutrient supply system for the soil can be built up.

दिल्ली में मदर डेयरी के ब
संख्या थों की

857. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में मदर डेयरी के कितने

बूथ हैं और इन बूथों के माध्यम से किन-किन मुख्य वस्तुओं की सप्लाई की जाती है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार इन बूथों की संख्या में वृद्धि किए जाने की मांग को देखते हुए उसमें वृद्धि करने पर विचार कर रही है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो ऐसे कितने और बूथ खोले जाने का विचार है और कब तक ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के.सी. सेंका) : (क) इस समय 365 मदर डेयरी बल्क वेंडिंग बूथ कार्य कर रहे हैं । इन बूथों को मुख्यतया दूध बेचने के लिये खोला गया है । लेकिन, मक्खन, बटर-आयल, आदि जैसे अन्य दुग्ध उत्पाद भी इन बूथों पर बेचे जाते हैं ।

(ख) और (ग) इन बूथों की संख्या 365 से बढ़ाकर 400 करने की योजना बनाई गई है । आशा है कि शेष 35 बूथ 1993 तक चालू हो जायेंगे ।

(घ) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Decontrol of prices of Fertilisers

858. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI P. UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has suggested Government for complete de-control of prices and ending of subsidy for the fertiliser industry altogether;

(b) if so, whether the commission has made any study of the likely impact on agricultural production;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision on the suggestions made by the Planning Commission; and

(d) if so, what are the results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA CHANDRAN): (a) The Planning Commission has not suggested any immediate decontrol of prices and ending of fertiliser subsidy. However, this suggestions has been made in the 8th Plan document as a long term solution to the subsidy problem to be backed by increase in support prices of foodgrains.

(b) The Commission has not made any comprehensive study in this regard.

(c) and (d) The entire gamut of subsidy, pricing, decontrol of fertilisers, etc. is presently under the consideration of a Parliamentary Committee.

Starvation Deaths

859. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item that appeared on page 4 of the Times of India (New Delhi) dated 5th June, 1992 under the caption '5 Adivasi children die of starvation'; and

(b) whether Government have ordered any enquiry in the matter if so, the outcome thereof and the steps taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA CHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected.

Shortfall in the Monsoon

860. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: